

Application No. 10/658,772
Amendment dated October 3, 2005
After Final Office Action of August 17, 2005

Docket No.: 0941-0835P

REMARKS

Claims 16-20 are now present in this application.

Claims 1-15 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 11-15 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Schade, Jr., U.S. Patent 4,199,733. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Without conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejections, but simply to expedite prosecution of this application, it is noted that withdrawn claims 1-10 and rejected claims 11-15 have been cancelled, thereby rendering the 35 USC 102(b) rejection moot.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Examiner considers claims 16-20 to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, in view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that this application should be fully in condition for allowance.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

In the event the Examiner does not consider this application to be in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered for the purposes of Appeal. This Amendment should overcome the current grounds of rejection and therefore simplify the issues for Appeal. Nonetheless, it should be unnecessary to proceed to Appeal because the instant application should now be in condition for allowance.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), the Applicants respectfully petition for a two (2) month extension of time for filing a response in connection with the present application and the required fee of \$450.00 is attached herewith.

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP

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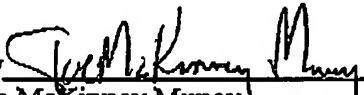
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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 3, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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